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Friends in Denmark.

The Friends in Denmark, as in all other countries, are on principle opposed to all forms of military service. The *Messenger of Peace*, published by the Peace Association of Friends in America, has this interesting paragraph on the efforts which are now being made to secure liberty of conscience in Denmark for all those who are, as a matter of religious faith, opposed to war:

"As the law in regard to this (military service) is now under revision, the Friends have presented a memorial to the government praying that all who are conscientiously opposed to fighting may be allowed to take their share in a Salvage Corps instead. The Salvage Corps is to be used wherever desired by the government in work for the relief of suffering, or in work for the public good, but is under no condition to form a part of the army. The non-combatants also say that they would be willing to give a longer time to service in this Corps than is required in the regular army; and this regulation would in itself serve as a guarantee that only those who really object to military service on conscientious grounds would avail themselves of the alternative."

Woman Suffragists.

The following resolutions, opposing the spirit of militarism, urging arbitration treaties between this and other countries, and asking the support of Congress for the proposition, now before it, to establish a regular international advisory congress of the nations, were adopted at the recent annual meeting in Washington of the National Woman's Suffrage Association:

"That equal suffragists be requested to urge upon their Representatives in both houses of Congress the passage of a resolution in line with that presented by the Massachusetts Legislature, which asks Congress to take the initial steps towards inviting the governments of the world to establish an International Advisory Congress to meet at stated intervals.

"That this Association hereby urges upon all equal suffragists the creation of local public sentiment in favor of the speedy establishment of general arbitration treaties between the United States and all nations with which it has diplomatic relations.

"That, whereas the growing spirit of militarism is a menace to democracy and progress in civilization, this association earnestly recommends to all equal suffragists the careful study of those definite measures which will promote the organization of the world and provide a substitute for war."

The War.

Preparations on both sides for the heavy fighting soon to come have gone steadily forward. The Japanese fleet's pounding of Port Arthur has not yet accomplished much except the crippling of the Russian squadron. The Japanese have pushed large forces into Northern Korea, and the Russians have hurried their troops to the Yalu river region. More than a

hundred thousand men on each side are now close together, awaiting the signal for the horrible duel-murder, which will "hurl many valiant souls of heroes to Hades." There seems little willingness on either side to begin till they are "ready." We do not wonder. They will soon be wishing a thousand times over, when they "get at it," that they had had sense enough in advance to keep out of the inhuman and ruinous business. There ought to be a universal cry of Christendom that the ghastly tragedy stop now. Such a cry could not be resisted.

Brevities.

. . . The great picture commemorating the establishment of the Hague Court, painted by Mr. Toche, is to contain portraits of all the one hundred delegates to the Conference. It is to be placed in the Peace Palace for which Mr. Carnegie has given the funds, and small copies of it are to be sent to all the schools and the town halls of France.

. . . The British *Speaker*, commenting on the tone of satisfaction over the Eastern war manifested by certain English papers, says: "It sometimes looks as if the development of imperialism has converted us from a nation of shopkeepers into a nation of *backers* absorbed in the sporting chances of a conflict anywhere and for any object."

. . . We are much gratified to learn that our co-worker, Mr. G. H. Perris, editor of *Concord*, has been chosen secretary of the Cobden Club of England. Mr. Perris is well known in all peace circles as an able and ardent advocate of arbitration and peace, and an opponent of jingoism, imperialism and militarism. He is a journalist who wields a powerful pen in the advocacy of economic and industrial reform and in general of the principles of Liberalism. Mr. Perris is unalterably opposed to the new fiscal policy of Mr. Chamberlain.

. . . Francis William Fox, an earnest member of the Society of Friends in London, recently made a visit to Berlin in order to ascertain whether the German government would be prepared to coöperate with Great Britain in approaching the other European powers to consider a limitation of armaments. He had interviews with several prominent men, including members of the Reichstag, and found a widespread opinion in favor of an arbitration treaty between Germany and Great Britain on the lines of those recently concluded between France and other countries. But he discovered no disposition, except among the Socialists, toward a disarmament movement at the present time.

. . . The French Parliamentary International Arbitration Group has decided to invite the friends of arbitration and peace belonging to the parliaments of Denmark, Sweden and Norway to attend an arbitration conference in Paris. The Danish, Swedish and Norwegian Deputies will be received in France with the same generous hospitality as marked the visit of the members of the British House of Commons last year.

. . . The resolutions adopted at the Peace Congress held at Rouen last September have been communicated by the Berne Peace Bureau to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of *forty* different governments. Among these resolutions was a strong one asking for an international Conference to consider the question of a truce of armaments.

. . . The Red Cross Society since its organization has rendered aid in seventeen wars and in over twenty great calamities. The Society has large funds in most of the important European countries, raised by voluntary contributions. A number of countries give official aid to the Society, some annually, some only in time of war when it is engaged actually in taking care of sick and wounded soldiers.

. . . The German Emperor has found in the Russo-Japanese war argument for a bigger navy. His government is reported to be about to introduce into the Reichstag a bill providing for a new double squadron, which it is desired to build as soon as possible. The Reichstag is reported to be opposed to further increase of the navy.

. . . Mr. Alfred H. Fried, the leader of the peace propaganda in Berlin, recently delivered a course of six lectures before the Vienna Academic Peace Union. The topics of the lectures were "The Fundamental Principles of the Modern Peace Movement," "The Practical Grounds of the Peace Movement," "The Obstacles to the Peace Idea," "The Organization of World Peace," "The Hague Court and the Present Status of the Organization of International Peace," "The Modern Peace Movement and its Organs."

. . . When the representatives of this country and of France signed, in 1803, the treaty of purchase by which the Louisiana territory was transferred to the United States, Mr. Livingston, the American envoy, said to the French Minister Marbois: "We have lived long, but this is the noblest work of our whole lives. The treaty which we have just signed has not been obtained by art or force; equally advantageous to the two contracting parties, it will change vast solitudes into flourishing districts. From this day the United States take their place among the powers of the first rank."

. . . Miss Margaret Noble, whose impressive addresses in Boston and Cambridge three or four years ago upon her educational work among the women of Calcutta are so warmly remembered, has completed a book upon "The Web of Indian Life," which is about to appear in London. Miss Noble will probably visit her home in England this summer; and she is expected to come to take part in the International Peace Congress in Boston in October, speaking upon the importance of mutual understanding and respect among the different races for the prevention of antagonism and conflict.

. . . The new Kansas State Peace Society, with headquarters at Wichita, has just created the nucleus of a peace library, for the free use of its members and friends. The most important of the peace books and pamphlets published in this country have already been purchased and placed in the library. The Society will be most grateful for any pamphlets or books which may be sent them gratuitously. The address is Peace Librarian, Lewis Academy, Wichita, Kansas.

. . . The national congress of the peace societies of France meets at Nimes the seventh of this month and continues its sessions for four days. This will be the second national congress in France, the one last year having proved very successful.

. . . The *Boston Globe* of March 20 had a most interesting women's symposium on the question, "Would there ever be war, if the decision was left to women?" Mrs. Lucia Ames Mead, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Blake, Mrs. Mae D. Frazer, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore and Miss Alice Stone Blackwell took part in the symposium. The general conclusion was that women, if the matter were in their hands, would either stop wars entirely or greatly reduce the number. We give Mrs. Blake's admirably expressed opinion in full on another page.

. . . Great Britain's war budget for the next fiscal year is estimated at \$144,500,000. This is about \$28,000,000 less than last year, owing chiefly to the reduction of army expenses for South Africa. Her naval budget for the same period is placed at \$184,445,000.

. . . The Committee of the Bloch Foundation — Henri Morel, Dr. Ludwig Stein and Elie Ducommun — have just published their first annual report. They have spent during the year about four thousand dollars, which has gone for the further development of the War and Peace Museum at Lucerne, for publications designed to continue the studies inaugurated by Mr. Bloch, and as subventions to some groups of peace societies.

. . . The Merchants' Club of Boston devoted its regular monthly meeting on March 15 to the subject of international arbitration. The speakers were Hon. Samuel B. Capen, Edwin D. Mead, Bliss Perry and Benjamin F. Trueblood. The tables were most beautifully decorated with white flowers, and each person present was given a symbolic souvenir — a small female figure bearing an olive branch in one hand and a wreath in the other, with the famous words of Grant, "Let us have peace," imprinted on the base.

. . . The Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador and the Peruvian Minister at Quito have signed a protocol submitting the Ecuador-Peruvian boundary question to the arbitration of the King of Spain.

. . . Interest in the Elihu Burritt memorial continues to widen and deepen, not only in his native city of New Britain, Conn., but in other cities and states. The New Britain Committee provided for at the recent mass meeting in that city has now been constituted. It consists of forty-five prominent men of New Britain and ten ladies. The Chairman of the Committee is Marcus White. This Committee will have charge of raising the funds and having a suitable monument constructed.

. . . A prominent business man in San Francisco, when the war between Japan and Russia began, remarked: "It's a good thing for this State; it will help trade; we'll all make money." And this business man imagines himself to be a civilized being!

. . . The Lamar (Colorado) *Sparks* says that a Pullman car recently passed through that place carrying eighteen insane soldiers, who had been brought from the Philippines to be placed in the military hospitals for the insane.